

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A mobile telephone, comprising:
a ~~core~~ circuit board assembly for supporting at least one functional component of the mobile telephone; and
a shell for substantially enclosing the ~~core~~ circuit board assembly,
wherein the shell is molded as ~~a single piece around the core assembly~~ onto the circuit board assembly and the at least one functional component so that the shell at least substantially encapsulates the circuit board assembly and the at least one functional component.
2. (Currently amended) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein the core assembly further comprises~~ further comprising a user interface input/output device coupled to the circuit board assembly for communication of information with a user of the mobile telephone.
3. (Original) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 2, wherein the user interface input/output device comprises a display assembly for displaying information to the user, the display assembly being viewable through the shell.
4. (Original) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 2, wherein the user interface input/output device comprises a keypad assembly.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently amended) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim ~~5~~ 1, where in the at least one functional component comprises at least one of a core processor, an antenna, a SIM card reader, memory, and an I/O connector.

7. (Currently amended) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 5, ~~wherein the core assembly further comprises 1, further comprising an electrical power source.~~

8. (Currently amended) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 7, wherein the electrical power source comprises a battery assembly coupled to the ~~printed~~ circuit board assembly.

9. (Currently amended) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 8, wherein the shell is formed of a resilient material, and wherein the ~~printed~~ circuit board assembly and battery assembly function as a backbone for the mobile telephone for providing rigidity to the shell.

10. (Original) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shell is rigid.

11. (Original) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 1, wherein the shell is formed of a resilient material, and wherein the functional ~~core~~ circuit board assembly forms a backbone for the mobile telephone for providing rigidity to the shell.

12. (Currently amended) A method for assembling a mobile telephone, comprising:
assembling a functional core assembly including at least one functional component of the mobile telephone; and
molding a shell about the functional core assembly, the shell substantially enclosing the functional core assembly, by placing the functional core assembly in a molding apparatus, wherein the shell is molded around the functional core assembly, and removing the mobile telephone from the molding apparatus.

13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the step of assembling the functional core assembly comprises assembling a functional core including a printed circuit board assembly wherein the at least one functional component is supported by the printed circuit board assembly.

14. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the step of assembling the functional core assembly further comprises coupling an ancillary hardware component to the functional core.

15. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the step of assembling the functional core assembly further comprises coupling a user interface input/output device to the functional core.

16. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the step of assembling the functional core assembly further comprises coupling a display assembly and a keypad assembly to the functional core.

17. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the step of assembling the functional core assembly further comprises coupling a battery assembly to the functional core.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising adding indicia to the shell.

20. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising painting the shell after molding.

21. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising testing the mobile telephone for proper operation.

22. (Original) A method for assembling a mobile telephone, comprising:
assembling a functional core including a printed circuit board supporting at least one functional component of the mobile telephone;

attaching ancillary hardware necessary for operation of the mobile telephone to the functional core to form a core assembly;
placing the functional core assembly in a molding apparatus;
molding a shell about the functional core assembly, the shell substantially enclosing the functional core assembly; and
removing the mobile telephone from the molding apparatus after molding of the shell.

23. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the step of attaching ancillary hardware to the functional core comprises coupling a display assembly to the functional core.

24. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the step of attaching ancillary hardware to the functional core comprises coupling a keypad assembly to the functional core.

25. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the step of attaching ancillary hardware to the functional core comprises coupling a battery assembly to the functional core.

26. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising adding indicia to the shell.

27. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising painting the shell after molding.

28. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising testing the mobile telephone for proper operation.

29. (Currently amended) A mobile telephone, comprising:
a core assembly for supporting at least one functional component of the mobile telephone; and

a shell molded onto the core assembly so that the core assembly is at least substantially encapsulated within the shell,
wherein the shell provides an external shape to the mobile telephone and is molded of a translucent or transparent material for allowing the core assembly to be at least partially viewed through the shell.

30. (Previously presented) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 29, wherein the shell is formed of a resilient material, and wherein the functional core assembly forms a backbone for the mobile telephone for providing rigidity to the shell.

31. (Previously presented) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 29, wherein the core assembly comprises:
a printed circuit board assembly supporting the at least one functional component;
a display assembly coupled to the printed circuit board assembly for displaying information to the user, the display assembly being viewable through the shell;
a keypad assembly coupled to the printed circuit board assembly for receiving input of information, the shell being molded over the keypad assembly; and
a battery assembly coupled to the printed circuit board assembly for providing electrical power for the mobile telephone.

32. (Previously presented) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 31, where in the at least one functional component comprises at least one of a core processor, an antenna, a SIM card reader, memory, and an I/O connector.

33. (Previously presented) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 31, wherein the shell is formed of a resilient material, and wherein the printed circuit board assembly and battery assembly function as a backbone for the mobile telephone for providing rigidity to the shell.

34. (Previously presented) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 31, wherein the shell is sufficiently thin over the display assembly so as to be at least substantially transparent over the display assembly.

35. (Previously presented) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 29, wherein the shell is molded of a rigid material.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently amended) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim ~~36~~29, wherein at least one of graphics, logos and indicia are applied to the core assembly, the graphics, logos or indicia being viewable through the shell.

38. (Previously presented) The mobile telephone as claimed in claim 29, wherein at least one of graphics, logos and indicia are applied to the shell.